AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the title as follows:

HYDROGEN PERMEABLE MEMBRANE

Following the title, please insert the following paragraphs:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO PRIOR APPLICATION

This is a U.S. National Phase application under 35 U.S.C. §371 of International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2003/014829, filed November 20, 2003, and claims the benefit of Japanese Patent Application Nos. 2002-336216, filed November 20, 2002; 2002-336217, filed November 20, 2002; 2002-336218, filed November 20, 2002; 2002-336219, filed November 20, 2002; 2002-336220, filed November 20, 2002 and 2002-336221, filed November 20, 2002, all of which are incorporated by reference herein. The International Application was published in Japanese on June 3, 2004 as WO 2004/045751 A1 under PCT Article 21(2).

Please replace the paragraph starting from page 15, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

--In the case of zirconium-nickel alloys, the interior of the reaction chamber was heated to 300°C, a hydrogen-containing feed gas obtained by steam reforming town gas (e.g., coal gas) and containing 66.5 vol % of H_2 and 20 vol % of CO_2, with the balance being high-temperature steam and other components, was fed through an inlet into the left-hand reaction chamber while holding the internal pressure within this chamber at 0.5 MPa.--